PARSONS' PURGATIVE PILLS
MAKE NEW RICH BLOOD
will completely change the blood in the entire system in three months. Any son who will take 1 Pill each night from 1 to 12 weeks, may be restored to sound health, if such a thing be possible. For Female Complaints these Pills have no equal. sicians use them for the cure of LIVER and KIDNEY diseases. Sold everywhere, ent by mail for 25c. in stamps. Circulars free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

DIPHTHERIA
Croup, Asthma, Bronchitis, Neuralgia, Rheumatism. JOHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT (for Internal and External Use) will instantaneously relieve these terrible diseases, and will positively cure nine cases out of ten. Information that will save many lives sent free by mail. Don't delay a moment. Prevention is better than cure.
OHNSON'S ANODYNE LINIMENT CURES Influenza, Bleeding at the Lungs, Hoarse Hacking Cough, Whooping Cough, Chronic Diarrhœa, Dysentery, Cholera Morbus, Kidney Troubles, and ches of the Spine. Sold everywhere. Circulars free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

s a well-known fact that most of the and Cattle Powder sold in this country worthless; that Sheridan's Condition der is absolutely pure and very valuable. ing on Earth will make hens like Sheridan's Condition Pow-
MAKE HENS LAY
Dose, one teaspoonful to each pint of It will also positively prevent and cure
HICKEN CHOLERA, Hog Cholera, &c. Sold everywhere, or sent by mail for 25c. in stamps. Furnished in large cans, price $1.00; by mail, $1.25. Circulars free. I. S. JOHNSON & CO., Boston, Mass.

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buying a harrow the farmer is always interested in knowing which is the best. All claims to ould be supported by previous good reputation, or such apparent superiority as commends itself urchaser on examination—or both. The following distinguishing features of the Corbin Harrow fail to be appreciated by every intending purchaser:
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e only Harrow having *oblique bosses*. They are so hard that a file will not scratch them. They will ten years and will wear four times as long as any others.
e only Harrow in which the driver can lift the gangs without stopping his team and dropping tenty per cent. easier on the team than any other Harrow made, when cutting at the same angle.
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A Well-balanced Complete Manure, for general use on all crops, either with or without barn-yard manure.
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ANNUAL SALES, 50,000 TONS.
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applied to the soil, repays its cost many times over. Try it, and be convinced. Pamphlets, with testimonials, etc., forwarded free. If there is no local agent in your vicinity, address
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Warranted Pure and equal to any Lead sold in the market. If your trader don't keep these goods send to us for samples of Colors, and other
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The two smaller sizes are especially adapted to small capitalists, and for those who do not very largely engage in the business. Circulars and testimonials to
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Maine Farmer.

Meetings and Fairs to Occur.

Aroostook Agricultural Society—Houlton, Sept. 16.
Buxton and Hollis Agricultural Society—Oct. 1, 2 and 3.
Eastern Maine Fair—Bangor, Sept. 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13.
Franklin County Cattle Show and Fair—Farmington, Oct. 7, 8, and 9.
Maine State Fair—Lewiston, Sept. 23, 24, 25, 26.
Maine State College—Orono, June 25.
Oxford County Agricultural Society Fair—South Paris, Oct. 7, 8 and 9.
Sagadahoc Agricultural and Horticultural Society—Topsham, Oct. 14, 15 and 16.
Lincoln County Agricultural Society—Oct. 8 and 9.
Waldo County Grange—Troy, June 3.
Waldo and Penobscot Agricultural Society—Monroe, Oct. 1 and 2.

President Pierce, of the Western New York Agricultural Club, says that wheat bran, sifted upon cabbage heads, will destroy the cabbage worm.

The National Convention of Wool Growers is in session at Chicago this week. Its action is looked for with much interest by wool growers all over the country.

Mr. Wm. Saunders, Superintendent of the Department of Agriculture grounds and gardens, says that no part of a pear or apple tree coated with lime has ever been affected with blight.

In 1883 California produced 2,660,000 pounds of dried fruits, besides 125,000 boxes of raisins, 20 pounds to the box, 700,000 pounds of almonds, and 500,000 pounds of walnuts. The fruits were apples, peaches, pears, apricots, nectarines, plums and French prunes.

Orange Judd, well known as the former publisher of the *American Agriculturist*, and for many years its editor, has assumed editorial charge of the *Prairie Farmer*, one of the best agricultural papers of the West. The connection with it of so able a journalist as Mr. Judd is a guarantee of its future usefulness.

At the annual meeting of the American Jersey Cattle Club held May 7th, John I. Holley was re-elected president, and Dr. H. M. Howe treasurer. New England is represented on the board of directors by Edward Burnette of Deerfoot farm. Col. Warring's claim was settled for $7,500, and a compliment of $2,500 was voted to T. J. Hand for his long and efficient service.

Mr. M. W. Davis, a member of the Vermont State Board of Agriculture, says there are fifteen dairymen in that State, each of whom is making an average of 300 pounds of butter per cow annually from his entire herd. That is a good record, but can't we count up more than that number who are reaching the average in the State of Maine? And Maine isn't celebrated for its dairying either.

Sheep droppings, compressed into solid cakes about two inches thick, are now prepared for florists' use. It is claimed that while it promotes growth in an extraordinary degree, it will not injure plants, even if used immoderately, and that the liquid for insects on the surface of the pots. A bag of 100 pounds is $3, and the same in powder $3.50.

Sheep husbandry in California is in a state of transition. Formerly men could invest all their money in sheep and pasture, free of cost, on Uncle Sam's land; now they are obliged to own or rent land for their ranges. The large flocks are being broken up, and smaller flocks kept on limited ranges and cultivated farms. The wool product of that state in 1883, was 40,448,500 pounds, a decline of 5,625,654 pounds from 1882.

Turn the breeding sows to pasture after taking away the young pigs, not in a yard but into the broad pasture. They will nearly get their living from the pasture through the summer, and will come up in autumn healthy, strong and hungry, and hearty. This requiring hogs to wallow through the heat of summer in the dung from the cattle stalls is a species of cruelty to animals that no thoughtful man ought to be guilty of.

The season at this date is rather backward, occasioned by prevailing cold and much cloudy weather. Only dry lands have yet been seeded. A goodly amount of farm work has been done, but it has been mostly preparatory work. A large amount of farm work has been laid out in such a state of forwardness that if the remainder of the month is favorable, planting will be completed in good season. Grass lands are of the winter apparently all right, and is now showing no unfavorable conditions. It has started slowly on account of the cold and is still backward. Hay is plenty, and stock generally is looking unusually well. Each year there are less farmers who are neglectful of their stock during the winter. Much hay will be carried over.

We are satisfied the big stories are not profitable reading, though interesting as matters of dairy information. What interests us more is whether these great yields are profitable. In everything else there is a limit of profit in excessive production; the greatest yields are not the most profitable. The Holstein cow Empress, owned by Gerrit S. Miller, Peterboro, N. Y., has been under a test during the past year, and has made the wonderful record of 19,714½ pounds of milk in the year. To make this milk he was fed when at the barn daily eight quarts corn and oat meal and sixteen quarts of coarse middlings; and when on grass four quarts meal with sixteen of middlings. Of course all understand that such tests are not made as a matter of profitable production, but rather as a test of possibilities. Great yields and excessive feeding may not and probably do not bring products at lowest cost. A scrub cow grazing the short herbage of the hillsides will bring her milk to the pail at less cost than this wonderful performer. There is a happy mean somewhere, if it can be found, when the greatest net profit in feeding is met.

Co-operation.

In an article on cooperation the Connecticut *Farmer*, commenting on the prevailing indifference among farmers toward all efforts to work together for mutual benefit, remarks: "There seems to be very little progress made in educating farmers out of this weakness, and we suspect that this feeling 'that every tub must stand upon its own bottom' is inseparable from the calling itself." There is no doubt but the "lordship of the soil" has a tendency towards a spirit of individual independence, and that in consequence, this spirit is found among farmers more than any other class of people. Neither is there any doubt but the highest good of the community may be promoted by co-operative efforts for mutual good. Among the farmers of this State there certainly is a tendency, more marked in some localities than in others, it is true, toward the toning down of this feature, but on the whole the matter apparently all right, and is now showing no unfavorable conditions. It has started slowly on account of the cold and is still backward. Hay is plenty, and stock generally is looking unusually well. Each year there are less farmers who are neglectful of their stock during the winter. Much hay will be carried over.

Trial of Fulverizers.

We had an impromptu trial of harrows at our farm a few days since. We had obtained the Eureka Spring-Tooth Sulky Harrow for trial in our work, and an agents of the Perry Spring-Tooth Sulky Harrow leaving of it came to the field to compare work. The field is the place to test the working power of an impliment, where neither the glib talk of the agent nor the paint and varnish avail anything. The Eureka runs on forty inch wheels and carries the original Perry spring tooth, and each tooth has an independent action which allows it to ride over an obstruction or drop into a dead furrow independent of the other teeth. It works a breadth of six feet. The teeth can be elevated by a lever at pleasure. The Perry harrow runs on forty-four inch wheels and carries a modified form of the spring tooth. By a very simple and easily operated arrangement the teeth can be gauged to work shallow when desired. It works a breadth of five feet, four inches.

Several interested neighbors were present to witness the work. There was a good chance to test their adaptation to different kinds of work, from the hard bed of a cartroad to sod furrows, and to mellow furrows infested with witch grass. The universal verdict was that each is a good impliment, and also that each possesses some points of merit over the other. Which was the best for the variety of work to be done on every farm could not be so readily decided. In fact, the first point to claim attention is, whether they will do good work. Of this there is no question, and whoever has either has an impliment that will give good satisfaction. They are both simple in their make up, are well made, and appear to have no parts that will easily get out of order. The arrangement of mounting them on wheels is certainly a great improvement over a drag harrow. They can be taken to the field as easily as a horse rake, the driver can ride or walk at his pleasure, (they generally prefer to ride), and they are under better control in every respect. Perfection in a harrow may not have been reached, but to prove that there has been great improvement one has only to test the modern impliment in the field.

Cheap Fertilizers.

The article (editorial) in the *Farmer*, May 9th, treating the question of fertilizers is timely and the counsel given, if heeded, will be of lasting benefit to the farmer. It is passing strange that farmers of intelligence will permit themselves to be so often, time and again, imposed upon, and will so readily plow with their eyes open and moan in buying formulas, recipes, and patent nostrums, humbugged again and again. Valuable as the article is, yet there are new features in the trade that appear to me to be a little misleading, or rather perhaps fall short of conveying the full intent of the writer. Probably no one can at least will object to my commenting briefly upon the points alluded to, and for this purpose I now call attention to this statement:

"Now, farmers, it is as well to accept the conclusion at once that the only cheap fertilizer which can be obtained is barn manure made on the farm."

In answering the question how can the soil be enriched and its adaptability to nearly all soils and crops (being a complete manure) heads the list. Yet there are other sources of fertility in the country farm that are often too often permitted to go to waste, that for some soils and special crops are even more valuable, and I think quite as cheap as barn manure. I refer to the leachy wood ashes from the house fires, and bone and offal from the kitchen and from those animals that are lost by accident or disease. Better still, when the saved deliveries for application to the soil would do much towards solving the problem of "a cheap and effective renovator of exhausted soils."

The other question with which I take issue is this: "it is perfectly safe to assume that if a fertilizer made up of commercial material costs but little, less will be lost by reason of failure of crops." Science and practice agree that nearly all soils that have become partially exhausted by cropping, and are deficient in nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. To restore productiveness it has been found essential to supply either one, two or three of these elements. As a rule then, if a soil is lacking in potash only, and has a full measure of nitrogen and phosphoric acid, that to restore productiveness potash in some form would need be supplied; and this can be purchased in a commercial form at a comparatively low cost. Again the soil might be deficient in phosphoric acid while a full supply of nitrogen and potash to supply the needs of crops. In that case would not bone, either finely ground or treated with acid supply the demand at moderate cost, and in short is there not a considerable accumulated evidence to prove that on most soils the most costly ingredient, nitrogen, in commercial fertilizers is the main producing of crops, and even for many soils may be wholly omitted without lessening the agricultural value of the fertilizer? The question of soil fertility and fertilizers is one of vital interest to the farmer. To aid in establishing facts that can be known and applied by the farmer upon his own soil, not with the help of a thoroughly equipped experimental Farm and Fertilizer Control Station. Farmers of Maine, shall we not unitedly demand of our legislature the need of such a station? It is useless when the opportunity has passed to complain. Now is the time to foresee. H. L. LELAND.

We are glad to know that the article referred to above received the careful study of one so well qualified to examine the subject as our correspondent. It is difficult to express all one would like to of a matter in a limited space, and we are pleased to have the omissions brought out and elaborated by our readers. We were endeavoring to enforce the idea that if a farmer goes out into commercial circles for fertilizers he will buy none at less than their commercial value. If he buys at low cost a compound, put up for a fertilizer, it is because there is little fertilizing material in it. True it is, that when a single element only is wanting, like phosphoric acid, for instance, the addition of that single material will render that soil productive again. But when the farmer goes out to buy that phosphoric acid, he must pay the commercial price for it. He manures his land at small cost, but he has paid the full value for the material to do it with. He has not done it with a cheap fertilizer. A farmer buys bone and cuts it with acid with which to supply the lacking phosphoric acid, and accomplishes what he is advised, suffers with pains and deprivations, at less cost than could have been done by purchasing Cumberland or Bradley's X L; but his bone and acid have cost full commercial rates. Mixed with a large amount of drying material, road dust, muck or plaster, a ton of the material might contain a hundred pounds of phosphoric acid and cost ten dollars. A ton of fertilizer costing only that sum would be "cheap," and the reason of it is that there is only phosphoric acid in it. What there is in it cost all it is worth. Why Cumberland and Bradley's cost more, is because they contain other costly material in addition to the phosphoric acid.

American Competition with European Agriculture.

The *Boston Journal* thus summarizes a recently published report of the English Commission on American Agriculture on the subject of American competition with European agriculture. The fact is pointed out that the diminished production of European agriculture for the past ten years, occasioned by unfavorable seasons and the increase of population during the same period, have caused enlarged demands upon the surplus crops of America's productive and other continents. While Europe has had bad seasons, America enjoyed a series of exceptionally productive years, and was consequently enabled to provide a large part of the supply required by Europe. These large crops, together with reduced rates of transportation, resulted in an unusual export of wheat, corn and meats, sold at lower rates than European farmers could afford to accept. The operations of the latter became unprofitable, profits were absorbed, capital wasted, and in many cases bankruptcy followed. Rents declined, and leases were given up.

Remedies have been sought in a change of cropping, in scientific and mechanical aids to production, and in Government assistance and protection; but improvement has been slow in coming, and the European farmer is anxious to know whether the United States can continue, with a rapid increase in its own population to be fed this cheap supply of the food requirements of Europe. The proportion of farmers to those in other occupations in America is gradually becoming less, having fallen from 47.35 per cent. in 1870 to 44.10 in 1880, but in those states where the proportion of farmers is least, their annual income is highest. The extension of wheat fields westward will enable producers to export wheat for many years to come; and meats, more concentrated products, may be shipped abroad when grain shipments may be unprofitable. "It is a mistake," the report proceeds, "to suppose that the larger part of American wheat is grown beyond the Mississippi, or that the heaviest yields are in the new lands, or that spring wheat will ever exceed in quantity the winter wheat of the United States. Spring wheat takes the lead in pioneer farming, and declines inevitably as systematic farming comes in." During the past ten years Great Britain and Ireland have bought annually of the United States to the value of $374,088,880, and have sent in return goods worth $160,627,313, showing a difference of over $213,000,000 per annum.

Commenting on these facts the *London Times* remarks:

It must tell on British agriculture that the United States are feeding probably not less than half the nation—indeed, much more than half—with that most necessary of all food, justly entitled the staff of life. So far as regards wheat and flour, our huge metropolis might be almost as well where Washington is as on the banks of the Thames. That is even more the case with Liverpool, Manchester and other great northern cities. What the American send is their surplus, and this surplus is increasing more than their population, one may say, indefinitely. It depends on the progress of corn-growing in comparison with the population. That population, continually augmented by the settling [illegible] an average of a thousand immigrants a day, increases with a rapidity beyond all precedent; but corn beats it. The wheat acreage is now more than four times as large as it was in 1849. Everything points to regularity and certainty of increase. It does not depend on new immigrants, throwing themselves by railway over the country, just scraping the virgin soil, and gathering a spring sown crop here and there. It does not depend on a population selling further and further west. The increase is greater in the Eastern States than in the Western, and most on the improved farms. Where the population is stationary, or the increase of farmers, it is found that the agricultural portion of the population is actually decreasing in ratio. Nor is the increase at all exceptional in wheat and corn. It is even greater in the condensed form of animal food. What then, is there to prevent the United States from feeding us? Their cattle are 51,000,000 worth of food—that is, enough to supply the whole population of these isles? Supposing things to go on as they are now, it would probably look as if in time we might turn all Great Britain and Ireland into dairies, parks, orchards and kitchen gardens, leaving our butchers and bakers to supply themselves from the United States and our own colonies.

Communications.

For the Maine Farmer.

Shall Orchards be Plowed?

That depends on circumstances; whether the trees are young or old, whether trained high or low, whether in grass land or not now—but hide bound or grass bound, and too, whether the orchard land is suited to plowing or a rough, stony pasture impossible to plow. Also as to the quality of the land should be under the cultivation of the plow and harrow, with rotation of crops for seven or eight years, and then seeded down to grass and kept so permanently for annual or bi-annual top-dressing. These may consist of fine well-rotted manure, light, half-rotted strawy manure, from whatever the horse or cow may be obliged sometimes lime, ashes, ground bone and any half-rotted or well-rotted leaf or vegetable mold, but never muck, either alone or combined with the many of the above materials. I have learned from quite a long experience that it is not a good fertilizer when applied as a top-dressing, whether it has lain until it is fine as meal or not, and hereafter I shall use it only when it can be incorporated into the soil.

Most orchard trees are of middle age, say forty to sixty, or old ones, say sixty to eighty, and trained high enough so that the horns or yokes of the cattle employed in plowing do not interfere with the limbs, and thin—through evil as well as good report, though never as a loss in a pecuniary sense or as be tersely expresses it. "Never say die" do I do. Knowing the interest in Merinoes, being taken by many young breeders, and feeling assured that the Colonel could impart much valuable information on the subject of breeding, and care of sheep, we interrogate him on several points, which we judge will be of interest to the amateur breeder. What would you recommend to farmers and breeders of our State as a model sheep, Colonel? Is the first question we put. "Well, sir, I have had various opinions about that, but I have been breeding for a long bodied sheep, not too near the ground, which will shear a good fleece of long wool and weigh upwards of one hundred lbs." Have the sheep of your breeding this weight? "My two-year-old ewes, mostly bred by my ram "George," average one hundred lbs. last fall, and I think they are some heavier now." What is the yield of milk was your question. So far as regards wheat and flour, our huge metropolis might be almost as well where Washington is as on the banks of the Thames. That is even more the case with Liverpool, Manchester and other great northern cities. What the American send is their surplus, and this surplus is increasing more than their population, one may say, indefinitely. It depends on the progress of corn-growing in comparison with the population. That population, continually augmented by the settling [illegible] an average of a thousand immigrants a day, increases with a rapidity beyond all precedent; but corn beats it. The wheat acreage is now more than four times as large as it was in 1849. Everything points to regularity and certainty of increase. It does not depend on new immigrants, throwing themselves by railway over the country, just scraping the virgin soil, and gathering a spring sown crop here and there. It does not depend on a population selling further and further west. The increase is greater in the Eastern States than in the Western, and most on the improved farms. Where the population is stationary, or the increase of farmers, it is found that the agricultural portion of the population is actually decreasing in ratio. Nor is the increase at all exceptional in wheat and corn. It is even greater in the condensed form of animal food. What then, is there to prevent the United States from feeding us? Their cattle are 51,000,000 worth of food—that is, enough to supply the whole population of these isles? Supposing things to go on as they are now, it would probably look as if in time we might turn all Great Britain and Ireland into dairies, parks, orchards and kitchen gardens, leaving our butchers and bakers to supply themselves from the United States and our own colonies.

For the Maine Farmer.

The College Dairy Problem.

It is readily seen that in the management of the College farm at Orono, there are a combination of favorable circumstances not possessed by the ordinary farmer. The farm has not only the advantages of intelligent supervision, but can bring to its aid the highest scientific attainment.

Hence the work there performed can be conducted with the best known principles of economy, with the least possible waste or loss of means, and reaching the most favorable and profitable results possible.

Therefore whatever farm practices pursued, and experimental work carried forward and presented to the public, are worthy of the careful scrutiny and close attention of farmers.

I have studied with considerable care the report of the farm superintendent for the past year and feel well assured that the general and experimental work performed at the College farm may aid largely if heeded by the farmer in the management of his farm. Yet I must admit that the report of the dairy is a little disappointing, in not being so full and definite as is desirable. Hoping more light may be thrown upon this part of the report, you will pardon me for requesting its publication. The superintendent says, "In managing the stock, it receives nearly all its food from the barn throughout the entire year, but little dependence being placed upon the very limited coverage aside from the opportunity it affords for exercise. There has been an average of twenty-two cows and heifers in the dairy during the year. The hay consumed was found to be seventy-one tons." I find by the process of division, that this gives to each animal a little less than 3¼ tons for the year's keep, and a daily ration of less than 18 lbs.

Is it to be understood that this average allowance of hay obtained from the farm constituted nearly their entire feed through the year? Was there forage crops fed in the green state for some portion of the season? What was the character of the hay? If the soiling of the dairy cows has not been pursued is it because it has been proven less profitable than the feeding of hay?

"Butter sold for,	$1,689.73
Milk and cream,	280.91
Value of calves at birth,	186.00
	$2,156.64

This gives a gross income to each cow of $100.30. The cost of grain fed to herd, was $704.44. Cost of salt &c. used by stock and in dairy, $16.01. From the aggregate taken from receipts leave $1,487 80, to pay for the hay consumed. This gives $20.95 for each ton of hay used. No charge for the labor, care of stock or manufacturing butter, neither is credit claimed for skimmed milk or from manure resulting from food consumed."

In the above statement was date at hand that the report might not have shown whether the skimmed milk and manure are of sufficient value to compensate for the cost of labor, care of stock, manufacturing butter, interest and taxes on investment etc. As it is, each person must guess at this and it remains an open question whether the hay fed did bring $20 05 per ton.

Again by the process of division, I find the selling price of butter to be 25.6 per lb. I fear that the average farmer will not find much encouragement in these prices, that will lead him to expect to receive above 28c per pound for any fed to his dairy.

Without trespassing further upon your space I will close, hoping additional light will be given on these points, with asking your opinion of the College dairy management what is received per ton for good hay fed to dairy cows? 2d, under similar conditions what is the cost of butter per lb?

Now Mr. Editor, as you have a farm stocked with cows, can you not satisfactorily answer these questions as they presumably come within your skillful and intelligent management?

I hope not only to have them answered editorially, but that other dairy men will give to the public through the *Farmer* the knowledge they possess upon these points.

H. L. LELAND.

For the Maine Farmer.

A Good Flock of Merinoes.

VISIT TO THE FARM OF COL. S. W. TINKHAM.

Quite recently we had the pleasure of paying a visit to the farm of that veteran breeder and dealer in Merinoes, Col. S. W. Tinkham of Anson, whose genial presence is ever looked for at our county and local fairs as a faithful overseer of his favorite breed of sheep. Beginning many years ago with a few choice specimens of the breed, Col. Tinkham has followed the plan of breeding to the best blood in the land, and would prefer Peruvian Guano direct from the agency of the Peruvian government, and upon barn-yard manure, should be depended for the main producing of crops.

Cape Elizabeth, Me. S. P. MAYBERY.

For the Maine Farmer.

One Word More on Bee Culture.

There are no styled hives that I have ever used that bees winter so well in as the old-fashioned square box hive, 2 feet in length, 18 inches wide and 12 inches deep, with two places for the bees to go in and out at, 3½ inches by ⅞ of an inch, no hive that will give you as strong swarm of bees in this will. The new beginner ought to have two or three hives of this description so that in hard seasons he may save some of his bees. Why this style is best for the bees is because they have the whole control of all their stores, and less killed outright. The bee-keeper is still trying to get up a hive that never will live and is still and still give up their nice surplus honey. Let us give them a plenty of space and a door large enough to afford them plenty of air, and we shall have our reward.

M.

For the Maine Farmer.

The season here is somewhat backward, for all that the snow has gone a week earlier than usual. Not much farming done yet; in many places the intervales are still under water. Some few have sown oats on the dry land; about the same amount will probably be sown to oats as usual, but a small quantity of wheat and rye will be sown; potatoes not as many as last year, though in my opinion now is the time to plant. Yellow corn probably nearly double of last year; sweet corn not as much. We hear no complaints but what the hens have wintered well. Apple trees wintered extra well, though we see a number of small ones gnawed by the mice. The trees are now coming into bloom, and if the buds were the stand point the apple crop would be immense, but you can't prophesy what will happen before the middle of June. A lot of grafting has been done; people are learning that it costs no more to have good grafted fruit than it does to have little sour crabs. Hay is plenty and considerable will be summered over. Stock is looking fair; sheep, colts and young stock get their living in most pastures now without feed from the barn. The greater portion of the sheep are sheared, all before washing. A few years ago every one here washed his sheep, now none of them. We think this a step in the right direction. Not every one has a nice flock of lambs this spring. Not much demand for stock as yet.

Rumford, May 12, 1884. J. S. HUTCHINS.

A successful farmer made the statement that for several years he had practiced turning his cattle by or past the house during the fly season, and turning them out to graze during the night, and he was satisfied that the yield of milk was one-third more by so doing. It was of better quality, and he could feed one-third more stock on the same acreage, for the cattle destroyed by stamping a great deal of good pasturage. And that his cows might be protected, he even went so far as to darken the windows of his stables with muslin curtains. He was sold to build new barns, and he should put on blinds, for he considered them more necessary on his barn windows than on his house. A merciful man is merciful to his beasts, and this was a case where is paid.

Messrs. William and Watson Jones of Fairfield, have sold their imported Hereford bull to the well know breeder of Herefords, Gilbert Underwood of Fayette.

The Winslow Packing Co. has decided not to operate the corn factory at Mechanic Falls the coming season.

Horse Department.

Castration and Cryptorchidism.

A paper read before the Annual Meeting of the United States Veterinary Medical Association, at Young's Hotel, Boston, by Geo. H. Bailey, D. V. S., Veterinary Editor of the *Maine Farmer*.

I start with the proposition that, practically considered, the operation of castration of the stallion, (by various well recognized methods) is one of the safest and simplest in veterinary surgery; simple for the operator, and safe for the animals, always providing the work to have been properly and skilfully performed. And yet I know of many instances of graduates of veterinary schools whose "courage fail them" when called upon for the first time to make the operation; a case in point being that of a recent graduate of Canada, who went quite a distance to answer to a call to castrate a colt, and after having had the animal *secured for him*, he allowed the colt to be again released without making even an attempt to operate.

"Our doubts are traitors,
And make us lose the good we oft might win,
By fearing to attempt."

I believe the remedy for much of this lies with the schools, rather than with the graduates; that they do not sufficiently by practical demonstration, instead of by theory, models, or drawings, instruct their operating classes, and that too upon the living subject, rather than the "dead one," the opportunity, for obvious reasons always being extremely limited to find the cadaver of the entire horse upon the dissection tables of our colleges. Having decided to operate, shall we cast our animal, (if thus under restraint), or shall we castrate him in a standing position, without restraint? Both methods have strong adherents among our skilful practitioners, and both methods have some advantages and also some disadvantages, with which I will endeavor to deal briefly. Personally I have witnessed a great many horses of all ages, without casting, and without any other means of restraint than the use of a twich and a good operator to operate, while I have known there is no horse living but that can be safely castrated in a standing position—and I have operated on stocks (each one sometimes employed in the Western States)—there will always be a difference in their behavior, just as there is in horses while shoeing, some will make it quite a task, and maintain a state of high nervous excitement while under confinement.

If a stallion will allow his testicles to be freely manipulated, operating I should ordinarily judge him to be a good subject to castrate in that position, and any judicious veterinarian should submit all subjects to preliminary examination, before operating, in his pre-examination for hernia, for if that were present, the horse should always be cast, and castrated by the covered operation. There are various methods employed, and various instruments used by the profession, that have proved very successful in the hands of many competent men; and for the benefit of young practitioners, who have not yet decided what method they will employ, rather than the "old hands" who are already committed to their methods, I will briefly and briefly compare them. Among the instruments most commonly in use are the wooden clams (with or without caustic), the écraseur, the "House Castrating Clamp," the eccraseur and the "House Castrating Clamp." There is another method I have seen employed with various other animals (a barbarous one at best) by clansmen and quacks, that of stretching or tearing out the "spermatic cord," until it breaks somewhere, which of course will only do if sufficient "main strength and stupid ness" are applied to it. We know that the great testicular artery originates directly from the posterior aorta, and, in case with its satellite vein, finds its entrance into the vaginal sheath, through the internal abdominal ring, into which it passes with the spermatic cord, and from which it finds its descent to the testicle. The cremastric artery, originating from near the external iliac, also gains its entrance to the vaginal sheath and participates in the operation; and while I have never known of a case of hemorrhage, primary or secondary, resulting from its use, I have been called several times to attend cases of threatened hemorrhage where the ecraseur had been unskilfully employed. I need only to refer to the complications arising from castration, immediate and remote, such as hernia, hemorrhage, champignon or scirrhous cord, peritonitis, enteritis, gangrene, tetanus, amaurosis, and rarely, glanders and farcy, as these are well understood by the profession, only to say that their avoidance can best be promoted and insured by the most humane and painless mode of operating, and these I believe to be embodied in the use of the "House clamp."

I come now to what I consider a very important auxiliary to castration properly being no less than the removal of the non-apparent testicle from the *cryptorchide*, or ridgling horse. Until a safe and expeditious method of operating upon cryptorchides had been discovered, the veterinary profession were "groping in the dark" in their endeavors to relieve solipeds of an incumbrance that not many years ago was thought to be impracticable, if not impossible. The advantages of such an operation, if its entire safety could be practically demonstrated, were self-evident to any one who ever had any experience with a ridgling horse; for I think I hazard nothing in saying they are the most unsafe and ungovernable brutes of the equine genus. Now that the noted specialist, Farrier Miles, has discovered a safe and humane method of operating upon ridglings, and has publicly demonstrated its entire success, not only throughout this country, but also England, Ireland and Scotland, I believe the veterinary profession cannot do less than to acknowledge their indebtedness to an ingenious and skilful man for a valuable contribution to veterinary surgery; a contribution that prompted Mr. George Fleming, in the London *Veterinarian*, to make the graceful and frank avowal, "that it had remained for an 'American farmer' to visit England and publicly demonstrate to British veterinary surgeons, what they had never dreamed of being successfully accomplished, the safe and scientific removal of the non-apparent testicle of cryptorchides."

If I were asked to give a definition of the cryptorchide or ridgling horse, I should say it was an animal with one or both testicles *retained and concealed within the abdominal cavity* ("Ectopia of the testicles" is the designation given them by Chauveau), and within the limits of such a definition I do not include testicles that may be retained in the *constricted portions* of the *tunica vaginalis*, or that remain in any position *external* to the abdominal wall. To constitute a ridgling, the internal abdominal ring must be closed, "hermetically sealed," or, as Miles more aptly expressed it, "the door is locked and the key is lost." Having under his instruction for some time successfully employed his method of operating upon ridglings, I can fully appreciate the delicate and patient manipulation necessary to accomplish a safe and certain passage through the abdominal wall, that enables us to possess ourselves of the coveted and hidden gland; and while I am not at liberty to describe the *modus operandi* of Mr. Miles, I can safely say that it

Maine Farmer.

Augusta, May 22, 1884.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.

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Collectors' Notices.

C. S. AYER will call upon our subscribers in Lincoln County during May.

J. H. PRATT will call upon our subscribers in West Kennebec, during May.

J. W. KELLOGG, will call upon our subscribers in New Brunswick and Nova Scotia during May.

The last of the infected cattle in this State, were released from quarantine Friday.

In clearing up the back yards, don't forget to heave the old tomato cans over the fence. Be kind to your neighbors, always.

Judge Baker is attending the General Conference of the Methodist church at Philadelphia, and we are therefore without his usual interesting European letter this week.

It has been figured out that there is enough railroad travel in this country to give every man, woman and child in the United States a ride of one hundred and fourteen miles each year.

The Queen of England desires that the celebration of her birthday be postponed to June 28. Here's a hint to the heads of large families who are looking for numerous presents. Postpone the birthdays.

The ninth annual session of the American Association of nurserymen, florists, seedsmen and kindred interests, will be held in Chicago, commencing Wednesday, June 18th, at 10 o'clock A. M., and continuing three days.

In Dr. Bailey's article on colt stakes, in the last *Farmer*, an error occurred. In speaking of the entries in the two, four, and five-year-old stakes, he meant to have said that "the *record* will be beaten," not the *second*.

Several prominent ship-builders who are at Washington say that the shipping bill, as passed by the Senate, is perfect in its provisions, and removes every burden under which our merchant marine is laboring. If it fails to become a law, the responsibility will rest entirely with the House.

The stranger on visiting Boston will no longer be greeted with the salutation: "Have you seen the big organ?" for that instrument which has been so long in Music Hall, has been taken down and removed. There are other organs in Boston of equal noise among the newspapers of the city to take its place.

It is said that a year ago last Christmas Mr. Fish, the President of the defunct Marine Bank, gave each of his three daughters $50,000 in money, and last Christmas he told them to go and select good houses and let him know what they found to their taste; the deeds would be in their stocking on Christmas morning. A nice preparation for failure!

Messrs. Moore & Moore announce that they have been prevented from taking active control of the Waterville *Sentinel* last week, as was anticipated, but will do so on Saturday, May 31st. The publication day will be changed to Saturday. This week the change in the market by the immediate payment of the 137th call for bonds.

The venerable printer and farmer, with whom we have "stuck type" for many years, Jabez D. Hill of Moscow, and his wife, recently celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day, at their homestead. It was a pleasant occasion, illuminated by the presence of children and grandchildren. We can imagine the pleasant smiles and the kind words of the cheerful host.

Capt. J. H. Drew of Farmingdale, the well known correspondent of the Boston *Journal*, left home on Monday, for his favorite ship "Sea Witch," which will soon sail from New York for a year's trip to Australia and China. The Captain's many friends are thankful that they have been privileged to enjoy his genial society at home for more than a year, and will join with us in wishing him a prosperous voyage and a safe return to his happy home on the banks of the Kennebec.

A new dynamite projectile has been invented by Mr. F. H. Snyder of New Jersey, and it is said to be the most wonderful weapon of war the world has ever seen. By means of it dynamite shells can be fired from ordinary breech loading guns without any more danger to the firing party than is incident to the use of the ordinary shell, and operating with tremendously destructive force upon the object struck. The projectile can be used for either land or naval warfare, and naval authorities declare with such a weapon at command it would be an easy matter to sink the most powerful navy.

The Transit, published at the State College by the Orono Chapter of the L. T. V. fraternity, is just out. It is bound in pamphlet form and contains 136 pages. The front piece is a finely engraved likeness of Hon. Abner Coburn. It abounds in matter that will interest the alumni and friends of the school. The following visitors have been appointed to take part in the commencement exhibitions: G. W. Chamberlain, West Lebanon; H. L. Fernald, Orono; E. S. Goodrich, Milo; G. L. Hanscom, Bucksport; A. H. Keyes, Orland; E. E. Merrill, Houlton; J. P. Moulton, Sanford; L. G. Paine, Bangor; L. W. Rigge, North Fayette.

Mr. Editor: In a recent issue of your paper I noticed tobacco smoke recommended for the destruction of ticks on sheep. Would you kindly inform me through the *Farmer*, if water in which tobacco has been boiled is as effectual; also, if dipping the young lambs in the liquid is likely to result in any harm to them? Please mention any other simple cure with which you are acquainted. The above has been recommended by an old farmer. W. C.

Sydney, C. B.

Tobacco water is an excellent dip for sheep. At time of shearing sheep, dip the lambs, and all of the ticks may be killed. The tobacco water will not kill the eggs that are in the wool. To make complete work the lambs should be dipped a second time in two or three weeks. For another remedy, try Insect Powder dusted into the wool.

We have the sad announcement to make that the widow of the late Dr. Ezekiel Holmes, so long the beloved editor of the *Maine Farmer*, is in distressed circumstances, and greatly in need of help to sustain the bare necessities of life. Mrs. Holmes is now eighty-four years of age, and has been residing at Dover, N. H., with her only daughter Sarah, who has recently died after a protracted sickness, leaving the old lady entirely alone, with no near relatives able to care for her. The daughter Sarah was the widow of a soldier, Samuel Beane of Hallowell, whose name we are quite sure, may be found on the soldier's monument at Hallowell. A few years since Mrs. Beane lost an only son, just as he was graduating from college, and was intending to enter the Christian ministry. The proprietors of the *Farmer* have gladly contributed to the relief of Mrs. Holmes, and if our readers and patrons who certainly must have a kindly feeling for the memory of Dr. Holmes, and especially those who knew him personally, feel like contributing, we should be glad. The widow of the good old Doctor who fed those in need, and sheltered the houseless as long as he lived, should never know what it is to want. Any sums, however small, for the relief of Mrs. Holmes, sent to the proprietors of the *Farmer*, will be promptly forwarded.

A Financial Crash.

On Wednesday of last week, New York city had a great financial panic, not equalled since the noted "Black Friday" of 1873. Happily, however, the disaster for the most part is local, and the far-reaching calamity attendant upon the "Black Friday" referred to, will not be realized. The Metropolitan National Bank, one of the leading Banking institutions in the city, closed its doors. As this bank was well known throughout the country, its failure caused intense excitement. In the previous week's statement of the clearing house, the Metropolitan bank figured on the following items: Loans, $10,977,000; specie, $1,779,000; legal tender, $491,000; deposits, $6,439,000. Geo. L. Seney conveyed to the bank property to the value of $1,000,000, but it was not sufficient to save the bank. Wall street was in a state of intense excitement all day; men who were reputed rich in the morning, wended their way home, poor, at night-fall. There was a heavy fall of stocks in the market. The street was going wild. Men and boys were rushing to and fro, forcing their way through the crowds that gathered on the sidewalk and in the middle of Wall street. The cause of the failure was generally put down as the shrinkage of stocks. Jay Gould was nervous, but his house is all right.

On Thursday, the well known brokers firm of Fisk & Hatch, New York, suspended, and were obliged to issue the following notice to their creditors:

To our depositors and other creditors:

It is with great sorrow that we are obliged to announce to you our suspension which has been brought about by a combination of circumstances. The long continued decline in the market prices of securities, even then the very best, accompanied by a general weakening of confidence in financial matters, together with the heavy drainage of deposits, are the principal causes of our unfortunate position. We can only request those having claims against us to extend to us such considerations and indulgence as we may need and it may be in their power to grant.

Very truly, FISK & HATCH.

Those who are somewhat familiar with the business done by the firm estimate its liabilities at from $1,000,000 to $2,000,000. Of course, this will be largely reduced by the assets of the firm, but the ignorance of the character of these assets precludes the possibility of making a reasonable estimate.

The above firm say that their suspension was caused wholly by the exhaustion of margins, the refusal of customers to secure them and their inability to sell stocks without undue sacrifice. Among the other failures were A. W. Dimock & Co.; J. C. Williams & Co., O. M. Bogart & Co., Nelson, Robinson & Co., and Goffe & Rand. These firms say their trouble has been caused by their inability to raise money on securities. The closing of the doors of the Atlantic State Bank in Brooklyn caused a feeling of uneasiness among business men. President Puffer stated that the suspension was caused by efforts to help the Metropolitan Bank. There was a gathering of depositors on Thursday morning at the bank, but they were unable to get their money. President Puffer assured them that it would be all right and they would lose nothing. The panic seems to have extended to the depositors of other banks in Brooklyn. Among other banks the Brooklyn Savings Bank, the Dime Savings Bank, and the South Brooklyn Savings Institution paid out large amounts of money to depositors, but all claim to be perfectly sound. The national banks of Brooklyn are considered to be sound, and the withdrawals of deposits were inconsiderable.

The Metropolitan Bank resumed on Thursday, and proceeded to pay out to all depositors presenting checks. A large amount of money was paid out, and general confidence was restored. During the panic, Secretary Folger gave considerable relief to the market by the immediate payment of the 137th call for bonds.

On the same day, (Thursday,) F. A. Hawley & Co., Boston, who have been doing a banking and brokerage business, suspended. This failure is a bad one, with liabilities rising $500,000, and there is no possible chance of a resumption of business. Hill & Stanwood, brokers, failed the same day, for $10,000.

On the opening of the stock market, Friday morning, it was found that the panic had subsided, stocks had an upward tendency, and business was being resumed on Wall street, with apparent calmness. The Newark, (N. J.) Savings Bank, closed its doors and made the following announcement:

"The purchase of government bonds was entrusted to Fiske & Hatch, who agreed to pay the interest pending the investment as soon as money was in their hands. The wealth and position of this firm naturally led to over-confidence and carelessness about obtaining the necessary instruments, and on the thing has gone on until it now seems the bank has lost nearly $1,000,000. Besides this the book of securities of the bank kept by the firm, which ought to hold government bonds only, had in their stead railroad property not of equal value nor so readily salable."

It is said the firm had a right as far as the bank officers could give it to them to borrow and use these securities, substituting for them different bonds of equal value, and now at the end comes considerable loss. Yet it is believed in a little while the securities now in the possession of the bank, received by them from the firm, will turn out equal to saving the depositors from any loss. The chancellor says the closing of the banks was ordered by him to protect the depositors. If contemplated negotiations are entered into, the bank will resume. The Second National Bank of New York, suffered on account of the defalcation of Ex-President Keo. A gentleman familiar with the workings of the bank describes Keo's method of getting money from the bank as follows:

The bank has a vault in one of the down town safe depositories, the Mercantile, I think, for the keeping of securities, and much of the business is done upon paper. For example, there is very little demand for cash from loans and discount. Young Keo would step down town nearly all day, and when he would lose $100,000 or $200,000 as the case might be, would give a check for the amount on the bank. When he returned to the bank he would write a fictitious name on a slip of paper, hand it to the cashier, and say he had made a loan for the amount, or that the person indicated on good securities, which he had examined and deposited in the banks department to the sum specified. Generally he would take the precaution to enumerate mythical securities on the slip of paper. In this way he completely averted suspicion, and led the cashier, whose integrity is unquestioned, to the belief that the money had all gone on loans in the regular course of business.

McCulloch, Beecher & Co., merchants at 41 Wall street, filed an assignment Saturday. They were shipping merchants. Beecher is the nephew of Henry Ward Beecher. The firm was at one time agents of the United States and Texas Steamship Line. Their assets are $300,000 and the liabilities between $350,000 and $400,000. The suspension was caused by the currency of Brazil having been heavily depressed, and the decline in coffee for three months.

In the long run, these failures will be a blessing to the country. The airy castles that speculators have built, imagining that they contained the elements of wealth, have been tumbling about their heads leaving them out in the cold. When a stock gambler inflates ten thousand dollars worth of stock to one hundred thousand, and puts it on the market, he does not add anything to the wealth of the country, but is taking the money of the people for an airy nothing. It is like an investment in moonshine. Like a thunder tempest that clears the overcharged atmosphere of the natural world, the failure of these speculators will clear the atmosphere, and in the end will prove beneficial. While men in legitimate business will feel a temporary inconvenience, from indirect causes growing out of these failures, the business of the country will be improved. The havoc made by the Wall street collapse reaches almost wholly to the domain of speculative enterprises, and already a general feeling is evident in business circles that the crisis has been reached and passed and that a gradual revival of business confidence and of consequent business prosperity may be expected.

The Lincoln mills in Lewiston are to stop work on June 1st for an indefinite period. Over 800 hands will be thrown out of work.

Insurance in Maine.

We have received the sixteenth annual report of the insurance commissioner of Maine for the year 1883, which gives the following statistics:

The Maine Fire and Insurance stock companies received in premiums in 1883 $253,534.80 and paid for losses $187,922.57, leaving a balance of $64,602.23. In 1883, the same companies received in premiums $294,738.31, and paid for losses $361,351.74, leaving a balance of $36,370.57, a loss over the previous year of $31,231.66.

In 1883, the companies of other States and countries received in premiums in this State, $857,549.61, and paid for losses $635,909.76, leaving a balance of $231,639.85. In 1883, the companies of the same class received in premiums $965,808.71 and paid for losses $32,070.49, leaving a balance of $343,738.32, or a gain of $112,098.37, over 1883.

The Maine mutual insurance companies received in premiums $36,835.08, and paid for losses $31,499.53, during 1883.

At the close of the year 1883, there were thirty-two fire, fire-marine and marine insurance companies organized under the laws of this State, and authorized to do business therein, of which one was stock fire-marine, two were stock marine, one was mutual fire-marine, and twenty-eight were mutual fire insurance companies.

At the close of the year 1883, there were eighty-seven fire, fire-marine and marine insurance companies of other States and countries authorized to transact business in Maine, of which eighty-four were stock and three mutual companies.

The report gives tables showing the capital, assets, liabilities, income and expenditures of the different fire, fire-marine, and marine insurance companies; nature of each, and the risks, premiums received thereon and losses paid during the year. The amount of tax on premium receipts paid by the several companies, amounts in all to $111,023.66.

The domestic stock companies have received premiums on marine risks amounting to $294,738.31, and paid losses on the same amounting to $261,857.74, or 88 per cent. of losses to premiums.

The companies of other States and countries have received premiums amounting to $665,808.71, and paid losses amounting to $622,070.49, or 64 per cent. of premiums received.

RETURN TO THE SOIL. No truer words were ever uttered than those of Col. Needham, at the recent meeting of the Trustees of the New England Agricultural Society. He said that if there is anything that will bring back the people to the true principles of the foundation of their government it is the work of the agricultural societies. If you will look at this country to-day, and consider for a moment how it is tending, you will see that it is tending to give the power and the strength and the influence which was once possessed by its native born, to the foreigners who have come over here and adopted it as their present and their future home. However much you may deplore it, however much you may try to prevent it, there is but one way by which it can be prevented, and that is by inducing the native born to return to the industries of their fathers, and do their own work, that they may build up an individual independence which they are rapidly losing; and as sure as according to the law of mathematics two and two make four, just so true this government, and the power of this government, and the power of the people of this government, will be given to the industrial classes, whether they come from abroad or not, whether they are European, Asiatic or African; just as sure as night succeeds day, and day follows night, the industrial classes will take possession of the government, because the government is based upon the industry of the people, and the better classes, as we call them, the native born, the men who are succeeding the ancestry that established and founded the government, will pass to the rear, and those who have come and taken an adopted home will put themselves in the advance, as they should, because they will be the tillers and workers, and the men who are making the means which will support and strengthen, and build up the government.

A GOOD PURCHASE. Ira D. Sturgis, Esq. of Augusta, who is a member of the American Jersey Cattle Club Association, attended the recent large sale of Jersey cattle of Peter C. Kellogg & Co., New York and purchased three finely bred Jersey bulls of the American Jersey Cattle Club Registry. The first of his purchases which we will mention, is the twenty months old bull Lactea Podro 11533. This is a grandson of Eurotas 2455, out of a grand cow; this bull was sired by Pedro 3187, which sold by auction at one time for $2500, and subsequently to that sold for the almost fabulous price of $10,000. This bull of Mr. Sturgis' is identical in blood with Bomba, and one of the best bred sires of Eurotas. The second bull is Bashan Duke, 6620, two years old. Ida Bashan, the mother of this bull, has a wonderful milk record, giving 126 quarts of milk in seven days, from which was made eighteen pounds of unsalted butter. Carrie Bashan, a calf of which Bashan Duke is the sire, sold for $230. The third bull purchased by Mr. Sturgis is Verna Boy 10515, 17 months old, sire Compo Boy 2830, dam Fenella of Verna 6816. His sire, Compo Boy, is full brother to Croton Maid, that tested 21 lbs. 11¼ ounces of butter in seven days, a little over three pounds of butter a day. These bulls are handsome fellows, of solid colors, and cost money enough to buy a splendid farm in the valley of the Kennebec. They are now on Mr. Sturgis' farm at Riverside, Vassalboro', where they will be kept for stock purposes. This is not a money-making venture of Mr. Sturgis, but he sees plainly that in order to establish and successfully carry forward a creamery at Riverside, there must be the infusion of good blood; therefore the service of these noted animals will be put at a merely nominal price, which we understand is $3 for a service, in order that farmers in all this region may avail themselves of the opportunity to improve their stock.

NOMINATIONS BY THE GOVERNOR. The Governor has made the following nominations:

Justice of the Peace and Quorum: Daniel C. Goodwin, Biddeford; Samuel Tyler, Rockland, Don A. H. Towers, Newport; Albert W. Miller, Hartland; John Mc-Winthrop; Zebulon G. Thorn, Acton; William P. Hasteld, West Gardiner; Henry W. Mayo, Hampden; Joseph W. Patterson, Augusta; John H. Webster, Norridgewock; James Babcock, Lincoln.

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For the Maine Farmer.

SOME GOOD HORSES. Mr. T. S. Call, the veteran horse trader of Winchester, has a span of nicely matched, mahogany bay mares, own sisters, five and six years old, fifteen hundred and three inches high, and well made up; struck them from Boy, dam, a Drew mare; they are speedy and nice drivers. Mr. Call intends to put them in the Boston market. We think it a sad mistake to send horses of this grade out of the State; they should be kept within the limits of our State to breed from. Mr. Call also has a good bay stallion two years old, out of Ella Elsworth, formerly owned by Col. H. S. Russell, with a record 2.28 to wagon.

Mr. John F. Harris, of Bath, has lately bought of Charles Cushman, of Auburn, the fine two years old stallion, Vero, by Daniel Boon, dam, Kate Claxton by Wilkes Kimx. This is a fine bred, nice looking youngster. Mr. Harris intends to keep him for a stock horse.

J. A. S.

Phipsburg.

Hon. H. H. Dickey, ex-mayor of Lewiston, died yesterday.

Items and Incidents.

A secret meeting of candy makers was held at Chicago, recently, and it has leaked out that the reason for the secrecy was that so much had to be said about the public that it might be detrimental if the public should hear of it. Glucose is now made for one cent and sold for a pound, while the candy made from it sells as high as a dollar a pound.

Geo. Anderson, of Lowell, although salt rheum ulcers covered all his body, was cured by Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

Straw hats, like the daisies, are silently blossoming one by one.

OLD GENTLEMEN AND LADIES.—Cheer up! We have found something for you. You complain of being constantly tired; you cannot eat; you are restless at night; you dread the night; you feel that your vitality is wasting away; about expired. Use Quaker Bitters, and you will eat, sleep, and be happy; for you will realize that a new lease of life has been granted you.

The greenback labor party in Vermont has nominated Samuel Soule candidate for Governor.

"Every testimonial we publish of Adamson's Botanic Cough Balsam is genuine. We hereby offer a reward of five thousand dollars, for evidence proving otherwise in a single case. F. W. KINSMAN & CO.

Cyrus H. McCormick, the inventor of a reaper, hand cradle and hill-side plow, is dead.

SCHOFULA. A medicine that destroys the germs of Scrofula and has the power to root it out, is appreciated by the afflicted. Such a remedy is made known to men, women and children as described by testimonials, in the Sarsaparilla of Ayer's medicines containing remedial agents, which eradicate Scrofula from the blood. 100 doses $1.00. Sold by all dealers. C. I. Hood & Co., Lowell, Mass.

To all human appearances there has been a great reformation in Chicago. The clergymen inform us are unanimously opposed to Sunday races.

HOSSFORD FRENCH ROLLS.—One quart sifted flour, loosely measured, a little salt, one heaping teaspoonful of soda, (or two heaping teaspoonful and one heaping teaspoonful Bread Preparation. Mix thoroughly while dry. Then add enough sweet milk, or milk and water, to make a slack dough. Roll out thin and cut into square pieces with a teacup or cutter; then put a small lump of butter into the centre of each piece and fold the edges over it like turnovers. Bake immediately.

The other day Senator Morrill of Vermont, was absent from his seat in the Senate for the first time in twenty-nine years of legislative service.

Dr. S. B. Britan says: "As a rule, physicians do not by their professional methods build up the human constitution, and they seldom cure the disease to which it is always liable in our variable climate. Without our imperfect civilization. Special remedies are required to restore organic harmony, and strengthen the enfeebled powers of womanhood, and for those we are indebted to persons outside of the medical profession. Among the very best of these remedies," assign a prominent place to Mrs. Pinkham's Vegetable compound.

Advices from Durban, South Africa, state that on Sunday, May 4th, a band of the Umfus attacked the congregation of the Norwegian mission station at Inhalabatski, near the church. Three persons were killed. Through the missionaries were spared the marauders returned at night and killed all the Christians.

"Do you suppose eating angel cake will make an angel of me?" asked a seraphic young lady of the worldly young man. "I've no doubt it will," he answered, "if you eat enough of it."

FIRES IN MAINE. The house and barn of F. R. Jones in Auburn, near Littlefield's tavern, were burned to the ground last week. Mr. Jones was absent. Mrs. Jones had just time enough to get out the children, who were asleep in their beds, and to move out the sewing machine. Everything else in the house was burned. The fire caught in the barn. All the stock, consisting of a horse and the house and barn were totally consumed. The house and barn belonged to Albee Keen and were occupied by Frincetion, Thursday morning. Loss $700; small insurance. Loss $700.

The farm buildings of Albert P. Clement, in Kenduskeag, on the so called "Stone Farm," were entirely destroyed by fire. Loss $1600; insured.——The buildings of Levi Webster in the north part of Weld, were totally destroyed by fire Saturday afternoon. No one was at home except a little boy who lived there. The fire took in the barn and no reason can be given for it. A yoke of oxen, fifty-three sheep and a valuable pig were lost, also all of the farming tools. The policy of insurance was canceled a few weeks ago, and quite recently——Fire in Calais, Monday, morning destroyed a barn and damaged a house owned by John Martin. Loss about $1000; insured.

For the Maine Farmer.

MAINE AT THE NEW ORLEANS EXPOSITION. The Maine commissioners to the New Orleans cotton exposition, are successfully prosecuting their canvass of the State. They have prepared schedules of the industries of each district, and have received assurances of interest from the leading manufacturers of the State. A space has been projected, which, if carried out, will be a unique interest to the Maine display. It is proposed to group the Maine exhibits in a portable frame building, to be covered by the Kennebec Framing company of Fairfield, as a building all made, except the putting together, at home in Maine. It is also suggested that the freight and passengers be taken from Maine to New Orleans, by the Gove & Sawyer's vessels with auxiliary steam power, making the Maine display all the more unique. If the plans can be consummated, the Maine display will be one of the best in the whole show. The Fairfield mill building will cost $1,000, which has now been raised from various sources for the exposition. A fair share of the funds will be assigned to the use of this State. A traveling commissioner will visit Maine in the interest of the exposition, during the summer.

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THE CUMBERLAND SUPERPHOSPHATE. Elsewhere in this paper will be found the advertisement of the Cumberland Bone Company of Portland, manufacturers of the well known "Cumberland" Superphosphate. The official reports of Z. A. Gilbert, Esq., State Inspector of Fertilizers, is there given in full, and shows that the "Cumberland" led all the brands of superphosphate that he examined, thus making good the claim of the Cumberland Bone Company that the "Cumberland" is the best superphosphate in the market.

Captain George Merrimas, formerly of ship Aurora and a Brooklyn man, now of Brooklyn, had a narrow escape from death Monday. He was standing on the Marine Bank; when he got there it had suspended and he went to another bank. It was about all he had to show for forty years' work.

American Fish Cultural Association.

The thirteenth annual meeting of the American Fish Cultural Association, recently held in Washington, was one of great interest. In a paper by Hon. Theodore Lyman of Massachusetts, he said that fish was the main reliance of the New England Indians.

"In New England, it must have been the fish that furnished the surest support to the native savages. Even in the depth of its Arctic winter there was a chance to get seals, smelts and clams, and at the first approach of mild weather the waters teemed with abundance." Mr. Lyman then gave a brief resume of the laws enacted by the colonies for the preservation of fish and the extension of the fisheries. "The history of the movement for the restoration of our fishes may seem like a triumphal march; but in summing up the results, we cannot, in honesty, avoid the cold question, 'cui bono?' of what good is all this?"

Up to the year 1880, the fishery commissions of the States and of the General Government had appropriated $1,306,378. Has the country got a million dollars' worth of additional fish?

In 1880 the total number of fishery products of the United States was $45,000,000, a less sum than the value of the manufactures in a single Congressional District in the little State of Massachusetts. The two products whose value is most always to be measured by money. The people of this country could have been deprived of the manufactures of that district without severe mutilations, but what an outcry would rise, were we to be deprived even for a month from cod and white fish, lobsters and oysters.

In the light of the patient investigations of the past dozen years it is fair to assert, first, that our fresh water fisheries have in general greatly diminished since 1860, and second, that in many cases been destroyed. Secondly, that the local coast fisheries have also to a greater or less degree diminished.

Speaking of the good accomplished by the Fish Commission, Mr. Lyman concluded: "In a word, artificial breeding, by greatly augmenting the proportion of eggs impregnated and by protecting them until hatched, presents a great advantage over the natural process, and gives us an available method of preserving many important fisheries. But to produce results of commercial value, this water culture must be prosecuted as universally and methodically as is agriculture.

It is not the custom of Americans to stop half way in a profitable enterprise. There is no doubt that in the next generation some of our coast fisheries will be maintained by an establishment system of artificial culture. Perhaps, in that day, the honorable guild of fishmongers will erect a monument in gratitude, and will inscribe on its tablets the names of scientific men who have, in our time, labored to create a new industry."

THE WOOL GROWERS. The national mass meeting of the wool growers of the United States, at Chicago, was called to order at 10 o'clock Monday morning, 136 delegates being present. J. S. Cadding, of Kansas, was elected temporary chairman. A committee on permanent organization was appointed and a recess was taken.

Columbus Delano, of Ohio, was elected permanent president. A committee was appointed to prepare an address to the wool growers of the United States, and resolutions were adopted, setting forth the importance of the industry of wool growing, demanding the repeal of the law of 1873 and the re-enactment of that of 1867, declaring that we will, without reference to former party affiliations, recognize our friends whenever and wherever we find them, and at the polls will sustain only those men and such party organizations, as are in favor of protecting and encouraging and sustaining sheep husbandry in these United States, by restoring the wool tariff of 1867, or its equivalent.

On Tuesday, an address to the wool growers of the country was submitted. It sets forth that the existing sad condition of the wool industry is due to adverse Congressional legislation and that it will not again be safe to intrust Congress with those high rates of duty to those which prevailed under the tariff of 1867. The report was unanimously adopted.

The remainder of the session was spent discussing methods of united action on the pending national political canvass and for making the power of the wool growing industry felt.

MRS. JEFF DAVIS' BOUQUET. Something of a stir has been created at Boswell, Indiana, by the announcement that a meeting under "the code" between Col. J. C. McGuire of Mobile, Ala., and John Stites of Boswell, is to take place. John Stites, Esq., who was a Union soldier in the civil war, in the conversation related the incidents attending the capture of Jefferson Davis, with the circumstances of which he was familiar, as he was one of the capturing party. Mr. Stites said that in return for his courteous treatment Mrs. Jefferson Davis he was given a bunch of flowers by her which he kept, bringing it home with him at the close of the war. A reporter was present at the time of the reminiscence was told, and he wrote an account of it for the Boswell Courier. A copy of the paper, under the article marked, reached Mrs. Davis, who at once placed it in the hands of Col. J. C. McGuire, a friend of the family. Col. McGuire wrote to the editor of the Boswell Courier a complete denial of Mr. Spies' statements regarding the presentation of the flowers, saying the facts as Spies lied, and offering him satisfaction "on the code," at the same time asking that his letter appear in space in the Courier. The editor suppressed the letter, but only a few days ago told Mr. Spies about the latter's hesitation Spies accepted the challenge and selected Col. Bomba as his second. That the meeting will take place and be fought "to the death" there is no doubt. Friends have interfered without avail.

Editor's Table.

The "Singer's Welcome" is a collection of new music by L. O. Emerson, price 75 cents; published by Oliver Ditson & Co. Boston, and sold in Augusta by C. C. Hunt. A new and really good Singing Class book is always welcome. To be sure, music is very generally taught in our schools, but of necessity only where two or two parts. When the boy or girl matures, so as to possess a man's or woman's voice, there is a stoppage. Then comes the resort to the singing school, and at the first approach of mild weather the waters teemed with abundance." Mr. Lyman then gave a brief resume of the laws enacted by the colonies for the preservation of fish and the extension of the fisheries. "The history of the movement for the restoration of our fishes may seem like a triumphal march; but in summing up the results, we cannot, in honesty, avoid the cold question, 'cui bono?' of what good is all this?"

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Temperance.

For the Maine Farmer.

I have read once and again the ringing words of Hope Harold, in the *Farmer* of Feb. 28th, portraying so vividly and fearlessly the terrible evils of intemperance, and rejoice that through the widely extended circulation of the *Maine Farmer* such noble thoughts, so clearly and earnestly expressed, will reach such large numbers of homes and be thoughtfully read, and the stirring appeal will reach every true heart; fathers, mothers, sons, daughters, activity, and renewed effort in promoting the cause of temperance. The writer does not seek the cause of inebriation and drunkenness in the tippling shops, (the effects are certainly here,) but truthfully and fearlessly charges the responsibilities home to its source, the *fountain* from which issue the streams of legalized poison, that is "being distributed through the channels of commerce into every city, town and hamlet within our borders."

Politicians boast of the immense revenue our government is receiving from the manufacture, importation and sale of intoxicants; while the crafty politician is devising schemes for the disposal of these ill gotten gains, its blood stained revenue, its soul money," the true statesman and the philanthropist, sees the other side of the picture, and comprehends the heights, the depths, the miseries, the woes, that flow from the accursed traffic. Intemperance our alms houses with paupers; our reformatory institutions with the children of drunken parents; our streets with outcasts; our even the pure, sacred precincts of home cannot bar out the fell destroyer. Wherever we look we see this deadly work going on. The ante rooms are being transformed into a more convenient and suitable shape.

—Recently, two women, not a hundred miles from Augusta, did a washing so large as to astonish the neighborhood. In speaking of this, one of them said, "Why, the fumes of all came to the door with their heads out to know!"

—Dr. Lapham is arranging for the annual Press excursion to Old Plymouth, to come off on Monday, the 14th day of July. The entire expense of the regular excursion will not be over $10 to each member participating, side excursions extra.

—There is a general brushing up of the buildings

nnebec County News.

eamer "Nettie" will ply on Lake k again this season. Mr. George run her.

Directors of the American Na- of Hallowell, have passed reso- respect to the memory of Hon. orn, their late President.

Pratt, agent of the *Maine Far-* hold a meeting at the large white use, in Dist. No. 2, Riverside, ternoon next, at 2.30 o'clock.

Methodists of Gardiner are mak- ive repairs on their church. The oom is to be recelled and fres- he vestry repaired and painted.

electmen of Oakland, have com assessment of taxes. The total is $696,743; number of polls, of taxation, 66-10 mills.

imothy F. Hanscom, the oldest in China, died on the 14th inst., in year of his age. He has been inent in his profession, and emed in all the walks of life.

e Getchell of Winslow, son of Getchell of Winslow, a man 40 ge, while visiting a friend in Wa- nday, after eating a hearty din- ined of not feeling well and re- e privilege of lying down in a and two or three hours after, his t into the room to arouse him him dead in the bed. He leaves two children.

mos J. Billings Post No. 110, of Army of the Republic, was or- china village, on Saturday eve- S. Bangs. Ex-Senior Vice Dept. er, assisted by about a dozen members. leath Post of Waterville. This mences with 26 members, but vorable situation the number will reach at start of 100 in a short time. ving are the officers elected: L. ; A. B. Fletcher, S. V. C.; J. G. ; J. V. C.; R. Rice, O. D.; J. O. G.; Wm. Tilton, A. A. R. t. Adj.; J. Copeland, Chap.; D. , Q.; F. C. Ward, Q. S.

atue of Peace, to surmount the Monument, is now being cast at of the Hallowell Granite Co. atue of a female figure 13 feet olinth, the arms extended in the pronouncing a blessing. It took ighing about 40 tons on account nded arms, and when completed about 8 tons. The cap of the with part of the shaft in nove set granite yard. The monument pleted, which will probably be ll be 100 feet high, and will be the 19th of October—the an- of the surrender of Cornwallis at in 1781.

sequies of the late Hon. P. F. ere held at his late residence in on Saturday afternoon. Selec- riptures were read and remarks by Rev. Edward Chase of the onal church, and prayer was of- v. D. V. Fenley. Appropri- ons were sung in a very impres- er by a quartette consisting of ewer, Maj. Rowell, Mrs. Arnold Clough. A large number of the deceased were present to pay espects to him, who in life held honored position in the hearts of

The remains were accompan- rge number of mourning rela- riends to East Readfield, where r father, Rev. Timothy Merrill, ed. Martin, who had long been an onored position in the hearts of .

Poetry.

For the Maine Farmer.

The Sea.

Hurrah for the sea, the deep blue sea,
I love each sparkling wave,
As they dance and sing in their wildest glee;
And the scattered waters rave."

I love the sea when the morning bright
Awakens the world at rest;
And when the last beams of the sun's rosy light
Fades away in the distant west.

I love the sea when the lightnings flash,
And the tempest is raging high;
And the waters clash with an angry crash
'Gainst the rocks, they are hurrying by.

Oh, then I would leave this dull, tame shore,
For a home on the heaving sea,—
For the voice of the wind and the water's roar,
Are the sweetest music to me.

Oh! a life on the sea, is the life for me,
When the blue waves are crested with foam,
And when the chill winds whistle loud and free,
I would still call the sea my home.
Mare Hill. FANNIE A. FOLSOM.

Our Story Teller.

ALICE DAWSON—A MESMERIST'S STORY.

Just about daybreak on the 23d of March, 1863, a large traveling combination arrived in one of our thriving western cities to disband for the season. In the waiting room of the depot, the members of the company clustered together for a final parting. Some of them were going east that day; others had obtained engagements in the city for the remainder of the season, while still others knew not where to go. Two members of the company—my friend Edwin Wells, and myself—had secured, as a temporary residence, an untenanted house in the suburbs of the city. Mr. Dawson, the manager of the combination and the owner of the house, had offered us this place of abode, provided we would care for the scenery and stage equipage he intended to store there. He would also send us the few articles of furniture necessary to make the house habitable.

After the city was astir, we purchased a small stock of provisions and started for our rural retreat. Upon arrival at the premises, we were somewhat surprised to find a modern structure, with turreted corners, mansard roof, and high gothic windows. It stood apart from the other buildings on the boulevard, was quite castle-like in appearance, and surrounded by a grand park with graveled walks, and arbored avenues. An immense brick stable stood far in the rear of the building, and in this the scenery was to be stored.

We entered the structure and found the interior in perfect keeping with its outside appearance. High decorated ceilings, massive carved doors, wide hallways, and immense staircases. After examining the house from top to bottom, we finally selected a second floor front room as our quarters, its size and cozy access being more suitable for our use. A little later our things arrived, and we set up our bed and stove, kindled a fire, and in a short time the sight of glowing coals and the odor of boiling coffee made the room seem quite comfortable.

My companion had naturally an inquiring mind, and he had several times this morning said, quite abstractedly, "But why does not Mr. Dawson reside here?" I endeavored to find a reasonable answer to the question, but all my solutions of the problem were rejected by him as improbable, and the matter was at last dismissed for the time by his remark, "We shall soon know."

Edwin Wells and myself had entered the dramatic profession together years before, and had been separated but one season since, on which occasion he had secured an engagement as business manager for a travelling mesmerist. He possessed the secret of mesmerism, and I often witnessed his operations, and wondered at his skill and judgment in the treatment of his many subjects." He was a remarkable man in many respects. He entertained strange notions on social and political matters; was extremely fond of solving problems of every kind, was a reader, a reasoner, and an excellent talker.

After breakfast my companion said that he had some business matters to attend to in the city—that he would start at once and return as soon as possible. I remained to receive our trunks when they should arrive. It was quite late in the afternoon when my friend returned, and I had closed the shutters, lighted a candle, and was repairing some of my wardrobe.

"Well," said he, after removing his hat and coat, and seating himself on the bed. "I know now, why Mr. Dawson does not live in this house."

"And I suppose there is not much romance about it, either, is there?"

"You may judge of that. But first, let me take a cup of coffee and a roll, for I'm as hungry as the sea."

"How many acts are there in the tragedy you are about to relate?" I asked.

"Fear not, young man; it may not freeze thy young blood.' Seriously, now, I will tell you what I have ascertained about this house."

"I shall not lose a word," I said.

"Then to begin at the beginning, I will tell you that Mr. Dawson, the owner of this house, is a very wealthy man. He manages combinations, more for occupation and amusement, than for gain. His father left him an immense property, and his investments have increased well. For nearly half a century the old homestead of the Dawsons stood upon the site where this house now stands. About twenty years ago old Mr. Dawson died, and his son shortly after, married a wealthy, and handsome lady. The old homestead was pulled down and this beautiful structure reared in its place. One night a fire broke ever had—a bright, beautiful boy. About six or eight years ago, this boy met with an accident or a fright (it just what manner I have not yet learned) which unseated his reason, and left him what might be termed 'half-witted' periodically. Medical experts have been employed in giving partial relief, and I understand a permanent cure is despaired of by the parents. Mr. Dawson was often absent from his home for short seasons on the road, and his wife had urged him to adopt a child, to comfort and relieve the long hours of solitude during his absence. At last, in despair of restoring his son, they have adopted a female child from a foundling home—a beautiful, intelligent child, whose parents were entirely unknown. Years passed; the girl was educated, refined, accomplished. Her every wish was gratified; money expended without a word; she had been sent abroad to complete her training in music and art. The most costly wardrobe and jewels had been given her. Her foster parents had humored her in her desire to adopt the stage as a profession. She was an apt scholar, and the time approached when she was to make her debut. She loved her parents dearly, and was believed by them—now about 18 years, and a beautiful, intelligent, and accomplished woman.

"In the meantime, Alfred Dawson, the half-witted son, had grown to manhood. He was a fine looking fellow, with great broad shoulders, tremendous hands and arms—in fact a physical giant, but, alas! a mental pigmy. He spent the greater portion of his time with his horses and dogs.

One evening about this time Mr. and Mrs. Dawson and Alfred attended the opera, leaving Alice at home alone with the servants. She did not wish to go, and begged her mother to permit her to remain at home, that she might spend the evening in writing. Reluctantly they permitted her to do as she wished. Returning from the opera, Mrs. Dawson knocked at her chamber door and received no response. Alice was given, and the door forced in, but Alice Dawson was nowhere to be found. The gas was burning brightly, and an incomplete letter to a friend—the ink scarcely dry—lay upon the secretaire. The door was locked on the inside, and the key was yet in the door. There was no other egress from the room, except by the windows. The house was searched from top to bottom; also the grounds. The servants were questioned, but nothing was elicited. Miss Dawson had not been out of her room, at least to the knowledge of any of them. Everything in the room was in its proper place, and there was no evidence of a struggle. This is the very room from which Alice Dawson disappeared, and from that time to this—nearly three years—she has never been seen."

"This is a strange story truly," I said, "but were detectives employed in the case?"

"Yes; the very best that could be had. $5,000 were offered as a reward for the recovery, or for the conviction of any one connected with her abduction. The reward was finally raised to $10,000, where it still remains. The papers were full of these details at that time. The detectives visited the premises, ransacked the house, questioned the household, secured descriptions and pictures, and finally gave this very natural theory of the mystery: The girl was a foundling; her father or mother had watched her with a fiendish eye and determined to possess the accomplished daughter—perhaps only for the reward that they knew would be offered. Perhaps the parents had seen her and told her all, and this evening had been arranged for the elopement. She had stubbornly refused to accompany Mr. and Mrs. Dawson to the opera. Yet, if there had been collusion, why should the door be locked on the inside and the gas burning. It would, of course, have been an easy matter to descend by a ladder placed up to the window; but why should this precaution be taken? Whatever may have been done by the detectives, the case remains as much a mystery to-night as it ever was."

"This is all very strange," I said, "but you have not told me why Mr. Dawson does not reside here. I can not just see the connection between this mystery and his removal from this house."

"What I have told you I obtained principally from an old newspaper file. Of course I was unable to learn the exact cause of the removal of the Dawsons, but it seems quite reasonable to suppose that Mrs. Dawson being reminded of her lost daughter every time she entered this room, urged her husband to vacate the house. However, I am inclined to think that a more powerful motive was the cause; and, since I have determined to clear up this mystery, this will be my starting point. Ten thousand dollars is a prize worth working for, and I may as well tell you, since you will of course assist me in the undertaking, that I have a theory of the case quite at variance with that of the detectives. They looked for a motive and found a natural and reasonable one. Since this has failed, I shall adopt an entirely different method—one at once unnatural, unreasonable, and without apparent cause."

"Now," said my companion, "I have prepared a synopsis of this case, and I find that our first step is to see Mr. Dawson. He can be seen at his office at 11. We have nearly two hours to spare, and we can use it to good advantage by searching an old file of newspapers."

Shortly after 11 a carriage drove up to the office, and Mr. Dawson and a young man alighted. They found us waiting for them. Mr. Dawson greeted us cordially, and the other, his afflicted son, grinned and left the room.

After a few commonplace remarks, my companion alluded to the son, and asked if he was under treatment at present.

"A hopeless," the father said. "Everything has been done that can be. I am not encouraged to try again."

My companion asked if he tried mesmerism or mesmerism; and he launched out into a comprehensive and entertaining explanation of their philosophy, their causes and effects, how equilibrium had been restored and many diseases of the nervous system relieved and positively cured by this treatment.

He cited many instances of such cures—many of them cases coming under his own observation. Dr. Wells was an eloquent talker, positive in his statements, and carried conviction with nearly everything he said. To this subject he was entirely "at home," and what he said was interesting to Dawson. My companion asked if he might see the son, and the father called him in. The young man seemed quite at ease at first, grinned and hung his head, but my friend was not long interesting him, and at a nod of approval from the father, the operator seized the imbecile's attention, gazed for a moment or two into his eyes, and made a few mesmeric passes. The subject evinced signs of somnolency; the idiotic grin faded from his countenance, and a look of intense interest took its place. In a few moments the young man's head dropped.

"Will you give me your deductions?" I asked.

"Not yet; I need a few links to connect the chain. Let us retire. I can think better just before I sleep."

It was late when I fell asleep, and I could not have slept long when I awoke and found my companion sitting up writing. I soon fell asleep again, and was awakened this time by the strong smell of coffee. My friend had breakfast prepared. We drank our coffee, ate our meals, hailed a car, and rode down upon his chest and he slept. At a word from the operator he awoke, started vacantly about him, and in a moment or two recognized and returned to his countenance. Again the subject was impressed, and the facial changes took place. The operator questioned him and received lucid responses. The latter was astonished and delighted, and before we took our departure an appointment was made for my companion at Mr. Dawson's residence.

On our way to the "castle" my friend said, "I have succeeded in my first step, and the way is now clear."

"I cannot comprehend just what connection all this has with the mysterious disappearance of Alice Dawson," I said.

"You shall very soon know."

The next evening he proceeded to the residence of Mr. Dawson, and was ushered by him at a theater near by at 10 o'clock. Returning to our lodgings he seemed in excellent spirits, and remarked that everything was going quite smoothly. "I will reach the climax Tuesday evening, and you are to be present."

He spent the greater portion of that day in writing an old volume entitled, "Philosophy of the mind," and in making notes.

Tuesday evening arrived and we were ushered into the magnificent parlors at the residence of Mr. Dawson. I asked my friend if the portrait over the mantle was of Alice Dawson, but at that moment Mr. and Mrs. and Alfred Dawson entered. The latter greeted my companion very cordially, but did not seem pleased at my presence. In a few minutes he evinced signs of "sleep walking." A wonderful change of facial expression took place which I had noticed on the previous occasion. The operator made one or two passes and the subject closed his eyes and slept. Mr. Dawson held a whispered consultation with my friend, and Mrs. Dawson whispered to Alfred—but in vain.

"Now, Mr. Dawson," said my companion, "I have been informed that a reward or $10,000 has been offered for the recovery or the conviction of the slaughter, or the conviction of the abductor or abductors. Have I been correctly informed?"

"You have," said Mr. Dawson, "but what has it to do with your operations upon my son?"

"I will tell you. At my last operation I ascertained that your son is a clairvoyant; that he can see nothing in this world of any known to him, and the principal circumstances are now in my possession. I have not succeeded, however, in eliciting all the information that was necessary to complete the chain of evidence. It is a large sum, but not too large if rightly expended. Expended as it is under our wasteful, inefficient and inequitable disbursement of school management, far too large a portion of it is barren of adequate returns—is wickedly wasted." Under the present school system there appears from the report to be an injustice done toward the scholars of the State regarding the length of the schools. On the average the schools of the State are now open five and one-fourth months per year, but there is a great disparity in the different towns. In 1883, in Androscoggin county, the schools of Lewiston were open 200 days, and in Wales 94 days; in Cumberland county the schools of Portland were open 200 days, and in Standish 99 days; in Kennebec county the schools of Gardiner were open 198 days, and in Vienna 88 days. The situation in the other counties is fully as bad, and in different districts in the same town similar inequalities exist. For instance, at York one district enjoys 100 days of school, and another 88 days, and in Corinth one district has 176 days and another 77 days. The statistics show 36 towns so cut up into small districts that they average less than 20 scholars each. They show 79 towns containing 393 districts so small that in summer terms the average attendance per school was less than ten pupils. During the past year there was a decrease of 159 in the whole number of schools taught, and of 166 in the number of ungraded schools, and there are indications of a movement toward a much needed consolidation of the small schools. Progress has also been shown in the attempt made during the past three years to bring the courses of study in the ungraded schools into more definite and practical form. During the year eight towns abolished the district system, making forty-nine towns in the State where the schools are now managed with out the intervention of school districts. In his discussion of the advantages to be derived from the abolition of the district system, Superintendent Luce makes the following points: That it would enable all the school children in a town to enjoy equal school privileges; it would impose equal school burdens upon all citizens; less to better school houses, especially in the rural districts; afford a better supply of necessary school appliances; reduce the number of small and poor schools; allow the employment of more and better teachers; compel effective school supervision, and the more economical and profitable use of school money.

For several years the Maine Pedagogical Society has been trying to improve the school system of the State, and it has now entered upon the consideration of the whole subject of instruction in its several general departments of language, mathematics, science and morals, the outcome of which is hoped to be an authoritative outline of the work in those departments proper to schools of different grades, of the character of the text books and appliances needed, and of the methods of instruction to be pursued in order to obtain the largest practicable results. This society is the only one of its kind in the country. It is now proposed to ask the Legislature for authority to certificate teachers, that those who have chosen teaching as a regular vocation may not be subject to an annual examination by boards other than their peers in the same calling in order legally to pursue their vocation. When this is done teaching will be placed upon a level with other professions.

Wit, Humor, and Pleasantries.

There was a young damsel, oh, bless her,
It cost very little to dress her,
And she was as sweet as a rose,
In her every day clothes,
But had no young man to caress her.
Because you see, she had given the mitten to the only fellow in the neighborhood, and the amount of strychnine she was therefore obliged to waste on the desert air,
Was simply enough to distress her.

A pretentious person said to the leading man in a country village, "How would a lecture by me on Mt. Vesuvious suit the inhabitants of your village?" "Very well, sir; very well indeed," he answered; "a lecture by you on Mt. Vesuvious would suit them a great deal better than a lecture by you in this village."

"I only hope then, dearest, that at some time I may have the happiness of making you my wife?" "Yes I hope so, I am sure," she replied, "I am getting tired of young fellows for breach of promise."

An indiscreet son-in-law:—"Your mother-in-law appears to have a pain in the side?" "She has always had a pain in the ache." "But every now and then I see her put her hand on her side, as though she had a pain in her side." "Yes because she put her teeth in her pocket."

A young miss of sixteen asks what is the proper thing for her to do, when she is serenaded by a party of gentlemen at a late hour on Christmas vacation? We answer this question. Steal softly down stairs and untie the dog.

When Grace put on a new pair of shoes which fitted very closely, and moreover had a low heel, she was asked how she felt. Her reply was, "They make me feel as though I wanted to walk like a grasshopper."

"This is the third time you have called me a liar, sir!" exclaimed an excited man. "That so?" replied the aggressor. "Only three times? Then I fear that I have not discharged my duty."

An old man was arraigned before an Arkansas court for a trifling offence, and among the witnesses was an old woman, who, in giving her testimony, made such efforts to shield the old man that the Judge asked, "Madame, have you known this man very long?" "Yes, sir," the old woman replied. "I have known him a very long time. When a young girl he used to visit me. In fact, Judge, we were sweethearts," and she went on with her testimony, deaf to all the pulling and twitching of the old fellow behind her. Finally, when he was wounded, slighted and tormented, misused or afflicted. Cheerfulness and contentment never made any man's lot harder to bear, but many, many is the man who has made trials easier to bear and circumstances endurable. Many people are never quite so happy as they used to be. They never have quite so much good friends as in former times, or in other places. Friend, the good you have now and present friends are not to be despised. Is there then so much good in life that we can afford to throw any of it away? Why not make the most of the good we have? Let us stand off from despondencies. Listen for sweet notes rather than discord.

ADVERTISEMENT LITERATURE. Not long ago a man stood absorbed in thought at the counter of a newspaper office in a city. He was writing something on a scrap of paper, and as a friend passed him he made a bid as a drowning man catches at a straw.

"Give me a word," he exclaimed.

"Certainly," said his friend; "what kind of a word?"

"Oh, anything you can think of. It does not matter what."

"How would collaborate do?"

"Couldn't be better. Thanks, ever so much," and he inserted the word and handed in the advertisement.

The next morning the friend read:

"Furniture sold on collaborated time to parties desirous of going to collaborated housekeeping."

AN OHIO WONDER. The town of Felicky, O., is just now enjoying something in the nature of a sensation. There lives in the village an aged colored couple by the name of Barnes. They have with them their lives a little grandchild, Lizzie Higgins. Three weeks ago some one sent this four-year-old child a primer. The child has never attended school in her life, neither had she at any time received private instruction, yet she reads the book from beginning to end aloud. So astonished and elated were the grandparents when she began to read that they burst into tears, supposing her possessed of some supernatural agency. A few days since the wife of Postmaster Molen, being skeptical, selected a letter from a number, and handed it to her with the request that she read the address. This she did correctly. Professor Ullery, principal of the public schools, took her to his house and tried his powers in various ways, and says she both reads and pronounces correctly. The great number of people that are visiting her pronounces her a wonderful child, and no one pretends to account for her faculty of reading without ever having learned to do so.—[*Cincinnati Gazette.*

CHEERFULNESS. Many people are always complaining of their circumstances. Are there not persons from whom you can seldom hear the contented tone? They have had, or are going to have, all the ills flesh is heir to. There are people who never live in the right place, who are in the wrong business. Misfortune is their daily bread. They are misused, wounded, slighted and tormented, misused or afflicted. Cheerfulness and contentment never made any man's lot harder to bear, but many, many is the man who has made trials easier to bear and circumstances endurable. Many people are never quite so happy as they used to be. They never have quite so much good friends as in former times, or in other places. Friend, the good you have now and present friends are not to be despised. Is there then so much good in life that we can afford to throw any of it away? Why not make the most of the good we have? Let us stand off from despondencies. Listen for sweet notes rather than discord.
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Broomfield. LIZZIE E. COTTON.

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MR. EDITOR: Will you be so kind as to ask Dot of Wiscasset, to send me her P. O. address and name of her cousin in Texas, who sent her the Siem pre Viva? I will return the favor if I can. ALLIE L. HAY.
South Windham.

Young Folks' Column.

For the Young Folks' Column.

Letter from Mai to Al Morris.

Dear Al: Have you thought of me this winter and wondered why I did not write to you? My eyes have been much worse than they were last year, so much worse that I have had to stay in a dark room nearly all the time. For exercise I drive out in a close carriage and walk out in the evening, but I have to wear a shade all the time. One of our reasons for staying in New York this winter instead of coming to Washington, as we intended when I wrote you last, is that mamma wishes Dr. B. to treat my eyes. He is very skillful and pets and mamma have known him so long that they have more confidence in him than in any one else. Another reason for our change of plan is that Uncle George misses Aunt Kitty more in Washington than any where else. I suppose you know that his house is let to Representative W., so that we are not likely to be in Washington until fall. We shall probably go to Oakbrithe in June. I hope my eyes will be better by that time. I have not enjoyed very much this winter though both mamma and Uncle George have spent a large part of their time in amusing me. Uncle George reads the morning papers to me every day and explains anything that I do not understand in the political situation. Mamma, who is never very far from her two boys, as she calls us, insists that she will never go well upstairs in the ways of the day, and especially in political news. Uncle George's conversation is the more interesting because he is acquainted with some of the men in Washington. Mamma reads history to me two hours, and the rest of the time I get through with as well as I can with chess, stories, and occasionally a call from some little girl who lives across the street. She saw me first at the window and insisted on being brought over to see the "blinded boy." Her name is Fay and she is very many years apologies for Miss Fay's naughtiness. The little miss heard them all, and then said, "I did come, and I am going to make acquaintance only long calls, so I can go now and come for me after awhile." Since then she comes nearly every day, and usually brings a doll or book with her. We had already read "Fairy Land" and "Grimm's Fairy Stories," and Isabelle is one of her dolls. When mamma opened the door she came in as usual. She certainly is amusing. She can not read but has learned several nursery rhymes. She opens the book and looks intently at the page while she repeats. If I smile when she has finished she says, "I thought you would like that." When the nurse comes for her she says, "Good-bye, blinded boy, Fay will come again to-morrow." She is a spoiled child, but a very pretty one, and we enjoy her when she is here all the time, but I do enjoy her calls.

You see my days are not lonely though I would much rather be at school. I care very much for talking behind the boys in my studies than for anything else. Just think how old I shall be when I get through college, if, indeed, I am able to go at all. I do feel very much discouraged but mamma has promised me that in October I may commence to study in earnest. If I can not use my eyes, I shall have some one to read to me. Dr. B—— thinks there will be a great improvement in my sight in a few weeks and speaks hopefully of my going back to school in the fall. Will is still in Fairport and writes to me often. He spent the Christmas vacation with us, he and Uncle George went out every day and spent the two hours that Mamma and I devote to history, and twice we insisted on their taking a walk in the afternoon, but Uncle George said it was "too much exercise." I will send you a list of the time Will staid with me. The day he came I talked so long and asked so many questions that I tired both him and myself, but I was very glad to see him and enjoyed every moment of his visit. All my classmates sent messages to me and our Latin teacher sent me a Christmas card of her own painting. Will and I each had a good watch for a Christmas present; Papa sent mine home in October and Mamma kept it a surprise till Christmas. Uncle George bought Will's and I know mamma paid for both. Mamma gave us chains just alike. Miss Nellie sent us hat marks with our initials entwined with daisies and ferns painted on black velvet. Aunt Kitty sent Uncle George a calendar and Mamma a fire screen. The calendar was different from any I have seen; the ordinary calendar leaves were placed near the lower right-hand side of an old-gold satin plaque, above and at the left of the calendar, four branches of an apple tree are painted in colors. The brown twigs of the first branch are covered with snow; the second is full of blossoms; the third is represented in full foliage and the fourth is dropping its fruit. I do not think a novel way of representing the four seasons? The fire screen is of dark garnet velvet, on which golden rod, daisies and grass are painted. They are painted in their natural colors and are not arranged in the form of a bouquet, but each rises from the ground, poised on its stem so naturally that one would expect to see them sway and nod if they were taken into the wind.

I think I have written all that you will care to read about Christmas presents. I hope you will write to me soon. Tell me about your school and whether you like your new teacher as well as you did Miss P. Did you have a nice teacher at Christmas present this year? I wish I could be in Washington a while with good eyes. I especially want now to see and hear some of the Congressional celebrities. I do not understand them better than I did last year. Remember me to Miss P—— when you see her. Mamma and Uncle George send love. Yours truly, HAL.

For the Young Folks' Column.

DEAR EDITOR: Being much interested in the young folks' column I thought that the little boys and girls would like to hear about Eddie Palmer and his cat. He lives away down in Perry, Washington county, Maine, and he has a cat by the name of Topsy, and he is very fond of scraped turnip. Every day this winter Eddie has brought turnips from the cellar for the sheep and kine, and Topsy would have her share also. There is not a single claw of the girl's identity, and a suspicion is gaining ground that the man who took her to the hotel, turned open the peacock while in the room. The girl was found quite pretty and evidently well educated and refined.

EDDIE'S MAMMA.

For the Young Folks' Column.

I am a boy seven years old. I have for pets, two calves; I like them very much. My name is Sanford Sherburne Tarbox. Hercules's mother in two years old and she gives 8 quarts of milk a day, her name is Valentine because her birthday is St. Valentine's day. I send you a story which I have composed:

Once upon a time two chickens set out for a walk. As they were catching bugs and other things, one found a coal. "Well," said they to the toad, "Hallo! we are going to eat thee."

Said the toad to the chicks, "we will see about this," and he hobbled away.
Pittsfield. VIVIAN CLARE HERALD.

For the Young Folks' Column.

MR. EDITOR: I am thirteen years old; have been to school nearly all winter; had a good teacher. I am now making a mat, and am learning how to crochet. This winter I have five brothers and one sister. I am glad that spring has come, and the birds, next month, will bring the flowers. The hops sound a little girl would like to have the receipt for making Faith Cake: Two eggs, four tablespoonfuls sugar, a piece of butter size of a walnut, one teaspoonful of soda, nutmeg, and flour to roll out; cut in cakes. I will close now, hoping Lotta will try it.
Victoria Corner. CLARA JANE S.

For the Young Folks' Column.

I go to Sabbath school every Sabbath. I went to school this winter. Mother is lame and has had my twin sister do the work. I am knitting, and have knitted two mittens. My oldest sister lives about thirty miles from home. I have six brothers. I live on a farm. I wish some of the little girls would send me a pretty lace pattern.
MINNIE F.

For the Young Folks' Column.

MR. EDITOR: I don't like to be beaten by the girls so I thought I would write for the first time in my life. My father keeps the Post Office here. We can afford to throw any of it away? Why not make the most of the good we have? Let us stand off from despondencies. Listen for sweet notes rather than discord.
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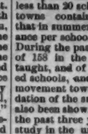
Disfiguring HUMORS, Itching and Burning Tortures, Humiliating Eruptions, such as



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Scalled Heads with loss of hair without number, heads covered with dandruff and scaly eruptions, especially of children and infants, many of which since birth had been a mass of scabs;

Itching, burning, and scaly tortures that baffled even relief from physicians, pronounced and healed as by magic;

Psoriasis, leprosy, and other frightful forms of skin diseases, scrofulous ulcers, old sores, and disfiguring scurvy, all of which are speedily, permanently, and economically cured by the CUTICURA REMEDIES.

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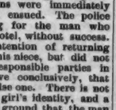
Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases."

CATARRH



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One bottle Radical Cure, one box Catarrhal Solvent and Sanford's Inhaler, all in one package, of all druggists for $1.00. POTTER DRUG AND CHEM. CO., Boston.

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Collins' Voltaic Electric Plaster instantly affects the Nervous System and banishes Pain. A perfect Electric Battery combined with a Porous Plaster for 25 cents. It annihilates Pain, vitalizes and Copper-Colored Diseases of the Blood, strengthens Tired Muscles, prevents Disease, and is the best remedy in the world. Sold everywhere.

A Pretty Woman's Secret.

Fear of discovery, when she resorts to false hair and dyes, is a source of constant anxiety to her. The very persons from whom she most desires to hide the waning of her charms are the ones most likely to make the discovery. But there is no reason why she should not regain and retain all the beauty of hair that was her pride in youth. Let her use AYER'S HAIR VIGOR, and, in only will her hair cease to fall out, but a new growth will appear where the scalp has been denuded; and locks that were losing gray, or have actually grown white, will return to their pristine freshness and brilliance of color. AYER'S HAIR VIGOR cures

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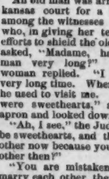

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is not a *dye*, but, by healthful stimulation of the roots and color glands, speedily restores to its original color hair that is

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MRS. CATHERINE DEARER, *Parish of Rocks, Md.*, had her hair suddenly blanched by fright, during the late civil war. AYER'S HAIR VIGOR restored it to its natural color, and made it softer, glossier, and more abundant than it had been before.

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Which cause dryness, brittleness, and falling of the hair, dandruff, itching, and annoying sores, are all quickly cured by AYER'S HAIR VIGOR. It cured HERBERT BOYD, *Minneapolis, Minn.*, of intolerable Itching of the Scalp; J. N. CARTER, Jr., *Occoquan, Va.*, of Scald Head; Mrs. D. V. S. LOVELACE, *Lovelaceville, Ky.*, of Tetter Sores; Miss BESSIE H. BEDLOE, *Burlington, Vt.*, of Scalp Disease and Dandruff. For fidelity of the roots of the hair, which, if neglected, may result in incurable baldness, is certainly cured by AYER'S HAIR VIGOR. As

A Toilet Luxury

AYER'S HAIR VIGOR has no equal. It is cooling, cleansing, delightful; perfumed, and has the effect of making the hair soft, pliant, and glossy.

Ayer's Hair Vigor,

PREPARED BY

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Lavine makes easy work.
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YOUR GROCER KEEPS IT.

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It costs less than One Cent for each quart of Flour. Ordinary Baking Powders in cans cost nearly Two Cents for each quart of Flour.

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Farms on James River, Va., in Northern Neck and Valley. Write Critical. F. MANCHA, Claremont, Va. 1913

"Maryland, My Maryland."

"Pretty wives and Lovely daughters."

"My farm lies in a rather low and miasmatic situation, and
"My wife!"
"Who?"
"Was a very pretty blonde!"
Twenty years ago, became
"Sallow!"
"Hollow-eyed!"
"Withered and aged!"
Before her time, from
"Malarial vapors, though she made no particular complaint, not being of the grumpy kind, yet caused me great uneasiness.

"A short time ago I purchased your rem edy for one of the children, who had a very severe attack of billousness, and it occurred to me that the remedy might help my wife, as I found that our little girl upon recovery had

"Lost!"

"Her sallowness, and looked as fresh as a new blown daisy. Well the story is soon told. My wife to-day has gained her old time beauty with compound interest, and is now as handsome a matron (if I do say it myself) as can be found in this county which is noted for pretty women. And I have only Hop Bitters to credit for it.

"The dear creature just looked over my shoulder and says, 'I can flatter equal to the days of our courtship,' and that reminds me there might be *more pretty wives if* my brother farmers would do as I have done."

Hop'ng you may long be spared to do good, I thankfully remain,

Most truly yours,

C. L. JAMES,
Beltsville, Prince George Co., Md., May 26th, 1883.

ESTABLISHED 1867.

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These celebrated Bitters are composed of choice Roots, Herbs and Barks, among which are Gentian, Sarsaparilla, Wild Cherry, Dandelion, Juniper and other berries, and are so prepared as to retain all their medicinal qualities, and will cure the following complaints:

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They are recommended and used by eminent physicians and clergymen.

No one can suffer long from any disease if they will use QUAKER BITTERS, as they effect a cure where other remedies fail. Ask your druggist for it, and accept no cure you; they have cured thousands.

For sale by all druggists and dealers in medicines everywhere. Price, $1 per bottle; six for $5. 13t38

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Whose debility, exhausted vitality, nervousness and failure to perform life's duties properly, from the excesses, errors of youth, etc., can be restored to perfect restoration to robust health by using

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